

IN THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheet of drawings include changes to Figs. 4 and 5. This sheet, which includes Figs. 3-5, replaces the original sheet including Figs. 3-5.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following discussion, is respectfully requested.

The drawings have been objected to under 35 U.S.C. § 1.83(a); Claims 1, 7, and 10-12 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Kaname et al.; Claims 2, 3 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Yoshino et al.; Claims 4 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Amemiya et al.; Claim 9 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Morimoto et al.; Claims 13-15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Emoto et al.; Claim 16 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Haneda et al.; and Claim 5 has been objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Considering first then the Examiner's objections to the drawings, it is to be noted that the blade spring referred to in Claim 5 comprises blade spring 13 illustrated in Figure 4 and discussed at page 16, lines 14-22. All other elements mentioned in the object to the specification have now been added to the figures for compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.83(a).

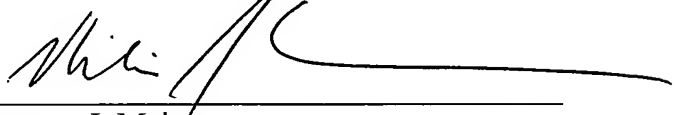
Considering next then the rejection of Claims 1, 7 and 10-12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Kaname, the rejection of Claims 4 and 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Amemiya et al.; the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al.; the rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Morimoto et al.; the rejection of Claims 13-15 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in

view of Emoto et al.; and the rejection of Claim 16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Kaname et al. in view of Haneda et al., it is to be noted that each of Claims 1 and 10 have now been amended so to include the language of Claim 5 which was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim but was indicated as being allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Insofar as the language of Claim 5 has been indicated as not being shown by the prior art, it is submitted that each of Claims 1 and 10 and the claims dependent therefrom therefore clearly indicate indication of allowability with the same being hereby earnestly solicited.

In view of the foregoing, an early and favorable Office Action is believed to be in order and the same is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
GJM/JDH:aif
I:\ATTY\JDH\248708US-AM.DOC

James D. Hamilton
Registration No. 28,421
Attorneys of Record

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340